



Agenda ***Sister Cities Commission***

February 27, 2014
Milpitas City Hall, Committee Conference Room
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
6:00 PM

I. Roll Call

II. Seating of Alternates

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of Minutes: January 23, 2014

V. Approval of Agenda: February 27, 2014

VI. Announcements / Correspondence

Items directly related to the Sister Cities Commission (SCC) and City of Milpitas business.

Commissioners' Lunch is Saturday, April 26 from 11:30-1:30; Open Government Ordinance requirement; Excused vs. Unexcused absences; Website photos.

VII. Public Forum

Members of the audience are invited to address the commission in any subject not on tonight's agenda. Speakers must supply their name and address for the record.

Commissioners cannot respond to issues brought forward, but may request that the matter be added to the agenda of a future meeting.

VIII. New Business

1. FY 2014-15 Work Plan & Fundraising Discussion

Background: The City Attorney's Office has recommended that all City of Milpitas commissions prepare an annual work plan. This would be reported to City Council. Also, at the last meeting a question was asked about selling premium items purchased by the City for SCC giveaway to visiting sister city delegations as a fundraiser. While this is possible, legal opinion is that the SCC first needs an approved work plan that reports fundraising activities.

Recommendation: Discuss format and elements of an annual work plan based upon the City's fiscal year (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015).

IX. Old Business

2. Sister City Research: Seongnam City, Gyeonggi Province, South Korea

Background: At its January 23, 2014 meeting, the Commission received a presentation from Seongnam City representatives. Commissioner Chen is leading the research effort and prepared an introductory letter dated January 31, 2014 to Ms. Eun-Hee Koo, Chair of the Board of Directors for the Korean Language & Culture Foundation, who is representing Seongnam City. Ms. Koo provided a response letter with substantial information for SCC review on February 17, 2014. Both letters are in the SCC agenda packet.

Recommendation: Review and discuss Seongnam City's responses.

3. 60th Anniversary Family Event, Sunday January 26, 2014 – Recap

Background: The SCC participated in an event specifically for families on January 26 from 1 – 4PM. Staff thanks Commissioners Grilli, Arbaugh, Hardin, Chang and Chen for participating and Commission Arefi for attending the 60th Anniversary Committee meetings that planned this event. The SCC displayed gifts from sister cities along with offering giveaway items for signups to consider hosting visiting students in October. Ten families expressed interest and provided contact information.

Recommendation: Note receipt and file.

4. Sister City Commission Promotional Expenses

Background: At the beginning of this fiscal year, the Commission has a spending limit of \$6,240. Expenses totaling \$5,295.30 are shown on the listing in the SCC agenda packet, for a total remaining budget of \$944.70.

Recommendation: Review expenses and discuss as needed.

5. SCI International Conference 2014

Background: The Sister Cities International Conference will be held at the San Jose Fairmont July 31 – August 2, 2014. At meetings in 2013, the Commission expressed interest in sending the Chair and / or Vice Chair to this event. Staff is also interested in attending, as budget allows. In addition, there is an opportunity to sponsor a scholarship to the conference at \$250 to \$450 per student.

Recommendation: Discuss advanced registration cost of \$375 per person by March 31, 2014.

6. E-Pal Project with Sister Cities

Background: Staff sent the paper letters from the Digital Business Academy at Milpitas High School to Isis Vasari via airmail on February 14.

Recommendation: Receive updates from Commissioner Grilli and staff.

7. Home-stays for Dagupan and Huizhou Students, October 2014

Background: At previous meetings in 2013, the Commission discussed setting a deadline to secure home stays for up to 20 students (10 each from Dagupan and Huizhou) by its May 22 or June 26 meetings.

Recommendation: Set deadline. Discuss outreach methods to reach students and parents through the Milpitas High School.

8. Tsukuba City, Japan

Background: Commissioner Arbaugh leads this sister city relationship. Staff responded to two requests: 1) provide display materials and photos of e-pal students with New Year's postcards for a sister cities exhibition at a mall in Tsukuba, and; 2) provide materials, video and letter from Mayor Esteves to promote Tsukuba's efforts for a sports complex and as a destination for the 2020 Olympics and Paralympics. Photos, video and letter are in the SCC agenda packet.

Milpitas and Tsukuba signed an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on September 1, 2009 for a five-year term, ending September 1, 2014.

Recommendation: Discuss MOU and upcoming recommendation to City Council.

9. Dagupan City, Philippines

Background: Commissioner Mateo leads this sister city relationship.

Milpitas and Dagupan signed an updated MOU in September 15, 2009 for a five-year term, ending September 15, 2014.

Recommendation: Discuss MOU and upcoming recommendation to City Council.

10. Huizhou Municipality, China

Background: Chair Grilli leads this sister city relationship.

Milpitas and Huizhou signed an updated MOU on October 15, 2013 for a five-year term, ending October 15, 2018.

Recommendation: Pending updates from Chair Grilli, no discussion necessary.

11. Comune de Figline Valdarno, Italy

Background: Vice Chair Serpa leads this sister city relationship.

Milpitas and Figline Valdarno signed their first MOU on May 8, 2012 for a two-year term, ending May 8, 2014.

Recommendation: Discuss MOU and upcoming recommendation to City Council.

X. City Council Liaison Report

XI. School District Liaison Report

XII. Future Agenda Items

- a. Sister City Relationships / Cultural Exchanges
 - i. Tsukuba, Japan
 - ii. Dagupan, Philippines
 - iii. Huizhou, China
 - iv. Figline Valdarno, Italy
- b. Seongnam City Research & Discussion
- c. FY 2014-15 Work Plan

XIII. Adjournment

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